



NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**FAIRBANKS FELON SENTENCED TO MORE THAN 30 YEARS IN FEDERAL PRISON
FOR DRUG POSSESSION, DRUG TRAFFICKING AND FIREARMS CRIMES**

Fairbanks, Alaska – United States Attorney Nelson P. Cohen announced that on January 9, 2009, Joseph Martin Wubbold, a resident of Fairbanks, Alaska, was sentenced in Fairbanks to 366 months in prison for possession of controlled substances with intent to distribute, felon in possession of firearms and ammunition, and possession of firearms in furtherance of drug trafficking. The defendant was found guilty after a week-long jury trial on October 3, 2008.

Wubbold, age 31, was sentenced by United States District Court Judge Ralph R. Beistline.

During two nearly identical incidents, Wubbold was found in possession of multiple firearms and controlled substances. On July 2, 2007, Fairbanks Police responded to a complaint of a disturbance in a vehicle between a man and woman outside of a Fairbanks residence. When the police arrived and contacted the defendant, he was found in the drivers seat of the vehicle in possession of a small lock box, the box included several items, including firearms, methamphetamine, several other illegal narcotics, a scale for weighing narcotics, and a large quantity of cash. On April 20, 2008, the Alaska State Troopers in Fairbanks initiated a traffic stop on a vehicle that had crossed a lane of oncoming traffic, after attempting to pull the vehicle over, the vehicle took off and turned into the wrong lane of traffic. While the vehicle was still moving, the driver jumped from the vehicle and continued fleeing on foot. Troopers pursued and eventually caught up to the driver, who was identified as the defendant, Wubbold. Inside the vehicle was a locked bank bag and safe. The Troopers executed a search warrant on the car and the items inside, the key to the bank bag was found in the defendant's possession when he was apprehended by the Troopers. After executing the search warrant, the Troopers found several firearms and ammunition; methamphetamine, marijuana, several other illegal narcotics, two scales for weighing narcotics, and a large quantity of cash inside the locked bank bag.

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives in conjunction with the Patrol Division of the Fairbanks Police Department, the Drug Enforcement Administration, and the Alaska State Troopers conducted the investigation leading to the conviction of Wubbold.

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